

Request for Exemption from College Housing Policy



Background and Instructions

Students who would like to request exemption from the housing policy may do so by following the procedures outlined below. The exemption process **is not applicable** for students who have signed a *Room and Board Agreement* and later decide to request to live off campus; these students should use the *Request to Terminate Room and Board Agreement* form.

Housing Policy

SUNY Oswego is a residential college and believes that experiencing the college's residential community is an integral component of the Oswego experience. First-year students are required to live in College residence halls for two academic years. Transfer students are required to live in SUNY Oswego residence halls for their first year. Exceptions are made for students who:

1. will continue to reside with their parent(s) or legal guardian(s),
2. will continue to reside in their official residence which is separate from that of their parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and at which they have resided for at least three (3) consecutive months prior to acceptance of the admissions offer from the College,
3. are married, or
4. are twenty-one (21) years of age or older as of September 1 for Fall admission or January 1 for Spring admission.

Room and Board Agreements are for the entire academic year (both the Fall and Spring semesters) and the College assumes that acceptance of the offer of admission indicates that the student understands that they must meet this residency requirement. However, students who enroll with the College in January may count that semester as equal to one full year on campus. The decision to approve or deny a request for exemption from the College housing policy will be based upon the sufficiency of the written explanation and supporting documentation you provide.

Instructions

1. Review the table on the reverse side of this sheet, which provides information regarding types of requests and necessary documentation for each.
2. Complete and sign the *Request for Exemption from College Housing Policy* form.
3. Submit the completed form, along with all supporting documentation to the Residence Life and Housing Office, 303 Culkin Hall.

Your materials will be reviewed by the Assistant Vice President for Residence Life and Housing or their designee and you may be scheduled to meet with them to discuss your request. A decision will be rendered regarding your request at the time of your meeting.

Note: Unless you receive approval of this request, your student status requires compliance with the housing policy. Alternative arrangements for housing, including a lease commitment, will not be considered sufficient reason for approval of this request.

Types of Requests and Required Documentation

Justification	Documentation Required
Commuting from the domicile of parent(s) or legal guardian(s) within 75 mile radius of campus*	Notarized <i>Parent or Legal Guardian Verification</i> section of the <i>Request for Exemption from College Housing Policy</i> form.
Diet	The College's Residential Dining Services Department's dietician must indicate Dining Services' inability to meet your dietary needs. Note: It is assumed that students understand our dining program prior to enrollment; therefore, general dissatisfaction will not be a reason for approval.
Financial	At least \$1,000/semester unmet need verified by the College's Financial Aid Office that developed <u>after</u> you paid the admissions deposit and occurred for reasons beyond your control and not as a consequence of either your action, or lack of action, and cannot be met by additional borrowing. Being unaware of your financial aid package is not sufficient reason for exemption. Parental contributions calculated by the Financial Aid Office are not optional and must be included in the budget calculation. Students are expected to secure loans to cover expenses of living on campus, if available. The ability to save money by living off campus is not a justification for exemption.
Marriage	Marriage certificate (license will not suffice)
Medical	<i>Request for Medical Housing Consideration</i> form.
Personal	Requests based on personal reasons, such as general dissatisfaction and unhappiness, are normally not approved because they are based upon feelings, etc., which are impossible to measure and therefore do not allow the department to be consistent and fair in the administration of the <i>Room and Board Agreement</i> . Alternative arrangements for housing, including a lease commitment, will not be considered sufficient reason for approval of this request.

*If you plan to commute to the College from a distance of more than 75 miles (one way), you must provide a plan that is deemed acceptable by the Assistant Vice President for Residence Life and Housing that allows for verification of your regular commute to campus each day you attend your registered classes. An example might be periodic inspection by housing staff of the odometer reading of the vehicle used for the commute, bus ticket receipts, etc.